



**Massachusetts Bay
Transportation Authority**

Youth Pass and Tariff Changes Update

December 19, 2016



Updates

Youth Pass

Bus-Rail-Bus Transfer

Student Pass on the Fare Vending Machines sales

Updated Tariff



Pilot Background

At the request of youth and transit advocates the MBTA piloted a reduced fare pass called the Youth Pass

The pilot ran from July 2015-June 2016 with partnership from City of Boston, Chelsea Collaborative, City of Malden, and City of Somerville

The pilot found benefits to youth and the partnership model administratively feasible

In response to data collected during the pilot the FMCB

- Made the Student Pass year-round and available on Fare Vending Machines
- Agreed to make the Youth Pass a full program and extended the eligibility age from 22 to 25

These changes will increase access to transportation for students and low-income youth significantly



Implementation Steps

After the FMCB voted to adopt the Youth Pass the advocates asked to clarify if the Youth Pass card would have the same half-price single ride fare option as the Student Pass cards

The MBTA decided to honor this request

The MBTA has worked with our AFC vendors to develop the new card type and modifications to the Fare Vending Machines and fareboxes

The MBTA sent letters to 17 cities and towns inviting them to join the program

Working with the partners, the eligibility criteria and program procedures have been finalized



Youth Pass Program Details

Youth Pass is a reduced fare monthly LinkPass (local bus and subway) for \$30 a month

Youth Pass card allows half-price per trip fares on bus and rapid transit, but no reduced fare for Commuter Rail

Open to youth in participating cities

Two eligibility categories

- age 12-18 not enrolled in middle school or high school
- age 19-25* enrolled in an eligible GED / workforce training program or state/federal benefit program based on income

To be eligible youth have to be born after November 1, 1991

Youth have to re-enroll each year

*Ages 22-25 is a pilot for a year in order to complete an equity analysis



Youth Pass Program Administration

Program is administered by partner municipalities

Partner cities sign an MOU with the MBTA agreeing to follow the program guidelines, MBTA can conduct audits to ensure proper eligibility procedures

Youth visit partner offices to submit application, partners verify eligibility, and print photo-ID Youth Pass card valid until November 1 each year

Youth able to purchase monthly pass on Fare Vending Machines and Retail Sales Terminals

Cities can join the program at any time



Youth Pass Program Launch

Program will start enrollment in January 2017 and sales will begin for February 2017 for participating cities

Currently **Boston, Chelsea, Malden** and **Somerville** are in the program

We are working with **Cambridge** and **Quincy** to get the program started and providing information to other cities as requested

More information at www.mbta.com/youthpass



Updates on other tariff changes

Bus-Rail-Bus transfer has been implemented

Student Passes are available on all Fare Vending Machines as of September 1

- Approximately 1,500 student passes purchased in each of October and November at Fare Vending Machines
- Compares to approximately 27,000 cards each month using all types of student Monthly Passes, and 18,000 using Student Stored Value
- Data suggests we need to increase the marketing of the Student Pass



Updates to the MBTA Tariff and Statement of Fare and Transfer Rules

- Added Youth Pass
- Added clarification that round-trip tickets purchased on-board Commuter Rail are only valid on day issued
- Added information for Student Passes on Commuter Rail, one-day LinkPass available on CharlieCards, CharlieVan sales
- Corrected information on transfer between Express Buses
- Clarified that Local portions of Express Bus routes are charged Local Bus fares
- Updated what transactions can be done at the CharlieCard Store at Downtown Crossing